

Pickwick Papers – Edition 21 – Term 5 – May 2024

Welcome from James Passmore (CEO)

I usually send this out to you at the end of each term, but decided to delay it until now as we've been waiting for the report of Ludwell's successful Ofsted inspection to be published, and wanted to include it as part of this edition.



I'd like to say a huge well done to all the children learning and working across all the schools in our Trust, but especially to our Year 6s who sat their end of primary school SATs tests last term – I know your hard work and engagement in your learning will pay off and stand you in good stead for the next stage of your education at secondary. Enjoy Term 6!

Trust Growth - possible new schools

As you may know, Pickwick Academy Trust has a strategic goal to grow to about 20 primary schools over the next couple of years, in line with the Government's commitment for all schools to be part of 'strong families of schools' by 2030.

We have been developing relationships and working with the governors and leaders in these five brilliant schools in Wiltshire, doing due diligence work to explore whether the following schools would like to work towards joining our Trust:

- Gomeldon Primary School, Salisbury
- Princecroft Primary School, Warminster
- St Andrews CE Primary School, Laverstock, Salisbury
- Winterbourne Earls CE Primary School, Salisbury
- Woodford Valley Primary Academy, Salisbury

We are now seeking support from the DfE to move forwards.

Flourishing Walk

On Friday 10 May, children and staff from across the Trust's church schools visited the Italianate church in Wilton as part of our annual Church Schools Flourishing Walk.

Huge thanks to Trustee Rachel Alderman for organising the visit and for leading us through a series of engaging activities in this beautiful church.

It was such a joy to see everyone supporting each other and enjoying fellowship together, which really embodied our Trust vision and values.

Huge thanks to the Heads and staff for bringing the children.



X (Twitter)

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Successful Ofsted Inspections at Pitton and Ludwell

On 19/20 March and 16/17 April 2024, Ofsted carried out routine inspections at Pitton and Ludwell Primary schools. Both schools joined the Trust having had previously challenging Ofsted experiences. We have worked together with governors, leaders, staff, children and families to support both to become strong, thriving and well-regarded schools. We are delighted that Ofsted confirmed our view that Pitton and Ludwell are strongly GOOD schools in all areas of their framework. Well done to everyone at Pitton and Ludwell primaries for all your hard work and dedication.

Pitton – quotes from the inspection report

- “Relationships between staff and pupils are strong.” “Pupils are happy and safe.”
- “Staff have high aspirations for all.” Pupils “describe the school as a ‘family of friends.’”
- “Pupils learn an ambitious curriculum.” “What pupils learn is carefully planned with important knowledge broken down into smaller chunks, which develop over time.”
- “The atmosphere within the school is calm and purposeful.”
- “Pupils take part in a range of enrichment activities which are carefully planned to support and build on areas of the curriculum.”
- “As soon as children start school, they are immersed in stories, rhymes and songs.”
- “Reading is weaved through every subject [and] pupils read widely and for pleasure.”
- “The school is highly inclusive.” “Pupils build confidence through positions of responsibility.”

Ludwell – quotes from the inspection report

- “The school’s motto, ‘inspiring creativity, fostering compassion, nurturing excellence’, underpins all aspects of school life.” “Pupils benefit from high-quality pastoral care.”
- “Pupils enjoy learning [and] take part enthusiastically in lessons and display positive attitudes to learning.”
- “Pupil voice is a strength of the school [and] ideas are valued. They are proud of their contributions to school life.”
- “Everyone is ambitious for pupils at the school. The Trust has contributed significantly to the success of the school.” “Pupils read well.” “Staff have expert subject knowledge to teach the phonics programme.”
- “The curriculum enables pupils to build their knowledge and understanding over time.”
- “Staff confidently teach the curriculum because their subject knowledge is strong.”
- “Teaching builds on what pupils already know. Staff make regular checks on what pupils know and understand. They use this information to help reshape learning where needed.”
- “The school has worked hard to establish an inclusive culture. Pupils with SEND enjoy learning alongside their peers. The systems for identifying their needs are effective.”

North Wiltshire Hub



South Wiltshire Hub



North Dorset Hub



Parent Webinars

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